

Membership Balance Plan

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

1. FEDERAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE NAME

State the legal name of the FAC

Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act Scientific Advisory Panel

2. AUTHORITY

Identify the authority for establishing the FAC

The Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act Scientific Advisory Panel (FIFRA SAP) is in the public interest and supports the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) in performing its duties and responsibilities. The FIFRA SAP is a statutory advisory committee created on November 28, 1975 pursuant to section 25(d) of the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA), as amended by Public Laws 94-140, 95-396, 96-539, 98-201, and 100-532. Section 104 of the Food Quality Protection Act of 1996 (Public Law 104-170) establishes a Science Review Board consisting of sixty scientists who shall be available to the Scientific Advisory Panel on an ad hoc basis to assist in reviews conducted by the Panel.

3. MISSION/FUNCTION

Describe the mission/function of the FAC

The FIFRA SAP provides comments, evaluations, and recommendations on pesticides and pesticide-related issues as to the impact on health and the environment of regulatory actions. The major objectives are to provide comments, evaluations, and recommendations on:

- a. The impact on health and the environment of matters arising under Sections 6(b), 6(c) and 25(a) of FIFRA
- b. Analyses, reports and operating guidelines to improve the effectiveness and quality of scientific analyses made by EPA
- c. Analyses Guidelines to improve the effectiveness and quality of scientific testing and of data submitted to EPA
- d. Methods to ensure that pesticides do not cause "unreasonable adverse effects on the environment," as defined in Section 2 (bb) of FIFRA
- e. Major scientific studies (whether conducted by EPA or other parties) supporting actions under Sections 6(b), 6(c), and 25(a) of FIFRA
- f. Major pesticide and pesticide-related scientific studies and issues in the form of a peer review

4. POINTS OF VIEW

Based on understanding the purpose of the FAC,

- (a) describe the process that will be used to ensure the committee is balanced, and identify the categories*
- (b) consider identifying an anticipated relative distribution of candidates across the categories; and*
- (c) explain how a determination was made to appoint any individuals as Special Government Employees or Representative members*

As required by FIFRA, the FIFRA SAP will be composed of seven members, including the Chairperson, and members will be selected from nominees provided by the National Institutes of Health (NIH) and the National Science Foundation (NSF). Members will serve as Special Government Employees (SGE) or Regular Government Employees (RGE). In selecting members, EPA will consider candidates on the basis of their professional qualifications to assess the effects of pesticides on health and the environment. To the extent feasible, the panel membership will include representation of the following disciplines: toxicology, pathology, environmental biology, and related sciences (e.g., pharmacology, biotechnology, bio-chemistry, bio-statistics). The expertise of the seven members of the permanent Panel is augmented by the use of ad hoc consultants (scientists) covering a variety of scientific disciplines to assist in reviews conducted by the FIFRA SAP, as provided in Section 104 of the Food Quality Protection Act of 1996.

5. OTHER BALANCE FACTORS

List any other factors EPA identifies as important in achieving a balanced FAC

Geographic location may be considered.

6. CANDIDATE IDENTIFICATION PROCESS

Summarize the process intended to be used to identify candidates for the FAC, key resources expected to be tapped to identify candidates and the key persons (by position, not name) who will evaluate FAC balance.

The summary should:

- (a) describe the process*
- (b) identify EPA key staff involved (by position, not name)*
- (c) briefly describe how FAC vacancies, if any, will be handled by EPA*
- (d) state the membership term limit of FAC members, if applicable*

Approximately 8 months prior to expiration of committee members' terms the DFO meets with EPA's Federal Advisory Committee Management Division (FACMD) to discuss the outreach plan, establish a timeline, and other issues concerning the membership package. After approval of the outreach plan the DFO conducts outreach for new members in accordance with the plan.

In accordance with FIFRA, EPA requests nominations from NIH and NSF for the seven-member permanent Panel. Nominee information is then posted in the Federal Register for public comment. Candidates are screened for their status as federally registered lobbyists as well as the absence of conflicts of interest and other ethics issues. The DFO develops a draft grid of nominees, including at least one additional candidate for each point of view for the function the committee is to perform.

A balance review of the proposed membership is then conducted by FACMD and the EPA FACA Attorney. Different levels of EPA managers then review the draft package for questions or comments before the final package is prepared.

Formal letters of invitation to serve on the FIFRA SAP will be extended by the Administrator or Deputy Administrator of EPA. This cycle will be repeated for any occurring vacancies. FIFRA SAP members

are usually appointed for a three-year term. Generally, members may be reappointed for a total of 6 years.

7. SUBCOMMITTEE BALANCE

Subcommittees subject to FACA should either state that the process for determining FAC member balance on subcommittees is the same as the process for the parent FAC, or describe how it is different*

**This is relevant to those agencies that require their subcommittees to follow all FACA requirements.*

EPA plans to use the process that is used to determine advisory committee member balance for the parent (Tier 1) Federal advisory committee for any Tier 2 subcommittee(s) that may be created.

8. OTHER

Provide any additional information that supports the balance of the FAC

Not applicable.

9. DATE PREPARED/UPDATED

August 23, 2016